

March 2022

Dear Parent/Carers,

### Ofsted Inspection

I would firstly like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the positive start to this new half term. Many of our pupils have continued to receive Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates for RADI points, with some pupils achieving Platinum certificates so early in the academic year.

As you will be aware, the school was visited by a team of Ofsted inspectors, on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2022. I would like to take this opportunity to share the key findings of the report, in advance of its publication. It was clear and encouraging that inspectors recognised for themselves the positive journey our school has been on and the significant progress made. Inspectors stated that *'the quality of education that pupils receive is much stronger'* due to how *'leaders have transformed this school for pupils'*.

I am particularly proud that the inspectors recognised that our pupils feel that Reddish Vale is *'a safe haven and somewhere that they feel they belong'*. I believe this is down to high expectations and standards, which are supported by the whole school community of pupils, staff and parents and underpinned through the school's core values of, **Respect, Aspiration, Determination and Independence**. A huge thank you to all our parents, pupils and staff who participated in the Ofsted surveys and face to face interviews which fed directly into this judgement.

The official published report identifies judgements in four key areas. In the last school inspection all areas including the overall effectiveness judgment were deemed to be judged as Inadequate, we are pleased that the recent inspection highlights significant improvement with three of the four judgements being graded as **Good**. Although the fourth judgement has improved, we recognise that further work is still required, all of which we have been working hard on and is in our School Development Plan. This judgement has an overriding weighting in the overall effectiveness outcome.

**Leadership and management:** Good

**Behaviour and attitudes:** Good

**Personal development:** Good

**The quality of education:** Requires Improvement

**Overall effectiveness:** Requires Improvement

You will know that, as a school, we are constantly striving to do the best for our pupils both personally and academically. I am very pleased the report recognises that the overhaul of the curriculum at Key Stage 4 has enabled pupils to study a broad range of subjects. Linked to our vision of '**Positively Changing Lives**', the report further recognises the curriculum is enabling pupils '**to understand their rights and responsibilities**'. Our school vision recognises that school and education should be focused on developing every individual pupil into a confident and well-mannered young person ready to make a really positive contribution to the wider community.

Ofsted identified that leaders, governors and teachers are passionate about raising aspirations for all pupils. They acknowledged that accurate self-evaluation and considered action planning has contributed to improvements. The report recommendations for future developments match or own internal plans outlining three key development areas:

- Continue to develop and refine the curriculum changes planned for Year 9 implementation
- Embed the new assessment system and its consistency of use at Key Stage 3
- Embed plans to further develop reading strategies in order to quickly identify and pinpoint the specific support pupils require to help them read more confidently and fluently

I think you will agree that the report reflects that everything we do is for the good of our pupils and their education. Whilst I am proud of the journey we have been on as a school community, I am just as excited about the journey to come as we continue to strive to fulfil our vision of '**Positively Changing Lives**'. We want our pupils to have the skills, knowledge and confidence to achieve their aspirations, now and in the future.

The full report can be viewed on our website.

Should any parent have a query or concern, you are more than welcome to attend a Headteacher's surgery which will take place on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022 09:00-11:00 am. Should you want to an appointment, please contact Emma Illingworth on 0161 477 3544.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs L Hanson  
Headteacher